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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT Application of:

Koichiro TANAKA

Application Serial No. 09/481,396

Filed: January 12, 2000

For: LASER IRRADIATION APPARATUS)

Art Unit: 2877

Examiner A. Rodriguez

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 6/28/01

Deborah A. Dorn

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated **February 28, 2001**, the period for response having been extended **one (1) month** until **June 28, 2001**, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claims 2-4 as follows. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the amended claims.

(Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus comprising:
a beam generating unit;
a lens for dividing a laser beam in one direction;
an optical system for overlapping divided laser beams; and
a slit located between said beam generating unit and said lens for forming edges in the laser beam, which is vertical to said direction.

(Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus comprising:

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